P24439.A01

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Applicant

: Yusuke SOTOME

Appl. No.

: 10/750,811

Filed

: January 5, 2004

For

: PUSH BUTTON DEVICE HAVING AN ILLUMINATOR

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, Applicant hereby calls to the Examiner's attention the following documents:

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2002-208326, which was published on July 26, 2002, together with an English language translation of the same;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2002-231086, which was published on August 16, 2002, together with an English language translation of the same; and

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 9-180572, which was published on July 11, 1997, together with an English language translation of the same.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted documents are attached and all of the documents have been listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the Form and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicant with the next official

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communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

Applicant also brings to the Examiner's attention the following co-pending, commonly assigned patent application:

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/749,410 to SOTOME entitled "Push Button Switch," which was filed on January 2, 2004.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(iii), a copy of the above-noted document is attached hereto. However, the Examiner is also requested to review the file wrapper of this application at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and the references of record, if any, cited therein.

Applicant also notes that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the instant application, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted, Yusuke SOTOME

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Bruce H. Bernstein

Reg. No. 29,027

April 2, 2004 GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1950 Roland Clarke Place Reston, VA 20191 (703) 716-1191

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